



CITY of NORTHAMPTON

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Northampton COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics Underway In Phase One

NORTHAMPTON - The City of Northampton announced it has the honor of providing Hampshire County with COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics. Over the past month, the Northampton Health Department has partnered with Northampton Fire Rescue, the Hampshire Public Health Preparedness Coalition, the Amherst Health Department, and the Easthampton Fire Department to provide vaccine to firefighters, paramedics, EMTs, police officers, emergency dispatchers, and several other groups of healthcare providers in early Phase One of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) Vaccination Rollout Plan.

As of this time, 690 first doses of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine have been administered at the Northampton site. Public Health Director, Merridith O'Leary states "this vaccination is one of the most important steps we can take to protect us from the devastations of COVID-19, and we have made sure that every dose provided to us has been put to good use." Northampton's health team worked hard to make sure individuals from other DPH assigned priority groups were invited to the clinics on a day-by-day basis as extra doses were available. As a result, the doses have reached a smattering of shelter residents and staff, other congregate care staff, primary care providers, home healthcare workers, dental practices, and other healthcare specialty providers providing direct patient care.

The Northampton Health Department plans to continue vaccination efforts throughout all phases of the Commonwealth's roll-out plan. In the weeks to come, the Health Department expects to double available appointments at each clinic. On 1/21/21 Governor Baker announced that clinics may now open up to the rest of [Phase One](#) healthcare providers. Additional appointment-only clinics will be scheduled during the coming weeks of the Phase One Vaccine rollout and moving forward into Phases Three and Four. The clinics will be contingent upon weekly federal and state allotments and will follow the phased guidelines as defined by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

"I am proud that Northampton continues to lead the way in western Massachusetts' response to the COVID-19 pandemic," shared Northampton Mayor David J. Narkewicz, "I'm confident that the tireless efforts of our health department to effectively distribute vaccines as they arrive will bring this deadly pandemic under control and continue to keep our community safe. I applaud their diligence and dedication."

Individuals who are eligible in Phase One will be able to register via a link on the city website at www.northamptonma.gov/vaccineclinics. Once eligible individuals are registered, they will receive an email with a link to set up their vaccination appointment. We will, indeed, be providing the second dose of the Moderna vaccine on or after 28 days later to anyone who receives their first dose at this clinic. If individuals need assistance with online registration please call 413-587-1219 and leave a detailed message and a health department representative will get back to you within 2 business days.

The vaccine is free to individuals and is being provided to the states by the federal government. Sites can bill for a small administration fee to cover the cost of running the administration sites and insurance information will be requested. However, no person will be turned away due to lack of insurance.

For further information, contact: Merridith O'Leary, Public Health Director, Northampton Health Department (413) 587-1214 or healthdept@northamptonma.gov.